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SOURCE

1945 to 1947

1. The "Deutsche Kugellagerfabrik GmbH" ("DKF") at 6 Guten-
bergstrasse in LEIPZIG (N 52/E 21) W 35, adjoins the
"Metallguss" Plant, Ltd. During the war the "DKF" was
assigned to produce exclusively for the German aviation
industry. The firm was a limited corporation of family
shareholders. Foreign capital was also invested. The
WITTE brothers, shareholders of the corporation, were
entrusted with the management. These two men were in
charge of the commercial and technical management even
after the war. Approximately 5 percent of the plant was
damaged by bombs, however these damages were repaired by
the end of 1946.

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2.

a value of approximately nine million DME against an esti-
mate approximating thirteen million DME made by the WITTE
brothers. However, the Soviet economic officers, evalua-
ting some machines at one DME each, gave an estimate of
five million DME. Without further discussion the Soviets
fixed the transfer value at approximately seven million
DME, at which price the entire plant was taken over as a
Soviet Corporation plant in the presence of the Landrat
LUDWIG, the notary Dr. BLUME, and the staff of Soviet offi-
cers.

3. A Soviet Colonel, previously engaged in the Soviet ball
bearing industry and coming from the MOSCOW "Gospodshipnik-
stroi" Plant, became general manager of the "DKF" Plant.
He was one of the few officers with a higher level educa-
tion. Under this Soviet manager the "DKF" Plant was renamed
"Leipziger Kugellagerfabrik, Sowjetischer Staatsbetrieb"

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4. Approximately 1,200 workmen and clerks are employed in the plant. It has about 600 machines, some of them of modern design including multiple spindle automatic lathes which could mass-produce simultaneously outer and inner rings of ball bearings.
5. A "DKF" specialty was the production of small ball bearings being manufactured at an approximate monthly capacity of 600,000 pieces. After the transfer into Soviet state property, the total ball bearing production was shipped to the SU. No changes of previously produced dimensions were made, which may suggest that the ball bearings could be used for the same airplane types as were used by the former German Air Force. The "DKF" machine installations do not permit an automatic production of large ball bearings but only of bearings with an outer diameter ranging up to 60 mm. The heavy double shouldered bearings ("Doppelschulterlager") for tractors, tanks etc. are constructed in the large MOSCOW "Gospodshipnikstroi" Ball Bearing Plant (labor force 20,000 men) with special American and German machines. The equipment for the MOSCOW Plant was furnished by the American ball bearing expert, Mr. SCHUBERT, who can confirm the excellent quality of the MOSCOW-produced bearings.
6. The monthly 1946 production of the LEIPZIG "DKF" Plant approximated 60,000 bearings of various sizes also including a small serial production of special bearings.
7. The testing of the products was made in compliance with the tolerances prescribed by the former German Air Ministry. However in 1946 it was planned to adjust the testing of bearings to Soviet regulations which has probably now been done. The commercial manager, WITTE, had to leave when the plant was converted into a Soviet Corporation Plant. The operational manager, WITTE, remained at the plant.

25X1A 8. ☐ Comment:

a. The "Deutsche Kugellagerfabrik" consisted of two plants: Plant I in LEIPZIG and Plant II at 6 Gutenbergstrasse in BOEHLITZ-ERHENBERG near LEIPZIG which had spur tracks. This report obviously refers to Plant II in BOEHLITZ-ERHENBERG.

b. The prewar labor force of Plant II numbered 540 men. It produced ball bearings, roller bearings, needle bearings and needle roller bearings.

c. The plant is now assigned to the "Avtovelo" Soviet Corporation. Some of the plants combined in this Soviet Corporation are

"Karl Reich" Ball Bearing Plant in ZIEHLA-ERHIS/Thuringia
(M 51/J 03)

"Gebr Heller" Ball Bearing Plant in KARLSTADT (M 51/H 85).

d. The statement made in paragraph 6 that the machine installations of the plant permitted only manufacturing of bearings up to a 60 mm outer diameter is disproved by available original records (B-2) on the 1947 production of the plant. These records listed the following production amounts and prices (1944 prices):

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	March 1947		April 1947	
	pieces	value (LME)	pieces	value (LME)
Ball bearings up to 100 mm gauge:	60860	461977	62421	443460
Ball bearings exceeding 100 mm gauge:	198	24165	201	28708
Roller bearings up to 100 mm gauge:	11379	105833	9575	1007009
Roller bearings exceeding 100 mm gauge:	86	9422	43	11450
Needle bearings:	1249	7369	2211	13045
Antifriction bearings ("Waelzkörper") (rolls and needles):	925920	39553	770864	36988

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